



# Ramtek and Nagpur Yatra 🙏🍊

**Ramtek ~ Where Lord Rama took Vow to relieve world from the Demons**



**Ramtek** is the place where Lord Ramacandra rested while He was in exile. Here He took a vow to relieve the world from the demons. 'Tek' means vow in local language, hence the word *Ramtek* comes from 'Vow of Ram', and here there is ancient heritage of great Agastya Muni. Ramtek is 52km from Nagpur. Nagpur is in central India in Maharashtra and is the Orange 🍊 capital of India. Two hours from Nagpur is another important place called *Kaundinyapur*. This is birthplace of Rukmini Ji, and this is where the famous Rukmini Haran (kidnapping) pastime took place. ISKCON has centre in Nagpur. Their Lordships Sri Sri Radha Gopinath are the presiding deities.

Close to Nagpur, across the border at Jam Sawali in Madhya Pradesh is a rare temple of Hanuman. Here Hanuman Ji is lying down underneath a large Pipal tree. This is the only temple in the world where Hanuman Ji is lying. Hanuman Ji is the eternal servitor of Lord Rama. Also close by is important Sri Vitthala Temple similar to the one at Pandharpur Dham.



## Atrocities by Demons 🌸🌸

The incomparable Agastya Muni was *tri-kala-jna*: He could see the 3 features of time - past, present and future. Hence he was well aware that Sri Rama was none other than the Supreme Lord, and that in the very near future He would fight a great war with the enemies of dharma, the demons (*asuras*).

Many sages of the Dandaka Forest had already suffered grievous harassment at the hands of atheistic *asuras*, and many had fallen victim to their evil schemes. Yet try as they might, none of these *asuras* could trap the wily Agastya. Through his unbreakable penance and high intelligence, the sage had even outwitted the evil duo Ilvala and Vatapi. Ilvala, taking the form of a Sanskrit-speaking *brahmana*, would invite different sages to share a meal. Then Vatapi would assume the form of the meal. After dinner Ilvala would smile and

say, "Come out, Vatapi," and Vatapi would suddenly burst forth, splitting the poor *rsi's* belly.

Once Agastya, requested by the *devas* (demigods), accepted Ilvala's invitation to dine with him. After the meal, the grinning Ilvala called for his wicked brother to exit the sage's body. But Agastya smiled and declared, "Your brother cannot come out now because he has already been sent to the abode of Yamaraja [the Lord of death] by the fire of my digestion." The infuriated Ilvala sprang forward, rushing at Agastya, but one stern and fiery look from the powerful sage reduced him to ashes in an instant.

When Lord Rama came to Agastya's ashram, he received Sita, Rama and Laxmana offering obeisances. Then he presented Lord Rama with the *Brahma-datta* bow. The bow had been inset with diamonds. Agastya also handed over a quiver of arrows that included the undefeatable *brahmastra* weapon.

In His talks with the sages of Dandaka Forest at Agastya's hermitage, Lord Ramacandra took a vow to vanquish the trouble-making demons. When the Lord took His vow, *Rama Giri* shook. By accepting the weapons from Agastya, the Lord displayed His intention of protecting His devotees. Today the village at the foot of Rama Giri is called Rama Tek, literally "Rama's vow."

In *Bhagavad-Gita* 4.7-8, Lord Krishna explains His vow to shelter His devotees: "*Whenever and wherever there is a decline in religious practice, O descendant of Bharata, and a predominant rise of irreligion at that time I descend Myself. To deliver the pious and to annihilate the miscreants, as well as to re-establish the principles of religion, I Myself appear, millennium after millennium.*"

### **Saint Agastya's Ancient Heritage**

Lavishly preserved in marble and carefully maintained by a group of devoted *sadhus*, this ancient hermitage has been developed as a pilgrims' destination of much importance. Even the *yajna-sala*, the holy place of fire sacrifice where the *rsi* received Lord Rama, has been continuously maintained since *Treta-yuga*. An iron door has been installed over Agastya's deep cave of meditation; only select *yogis* are allowed entrance into the chamber, called *Hatiphor*. The ashram's astute crew of ascetics display extreme care in the upkeep and worship of Saint Agastya's shrine.

Beyond Agastya Muni's peaceful cave is a large group of temples, the first of which is dedicated to Laxmana, who led the way to Rama Giri, announcing to the sages the arrival of his brother and sister-in-law. This explains why the Laxmana Mandir is first. The other temples are separately dedicated to Lord Rama, Sita and Hanuman.

### **Places to visit near Nagpur:**

1. Ramtek (52 km from Ramtek)
2. Kaundinyapur (2 hours from Nagpur in Amravati) - Birthplace of Rukmini Ji and place of Rukmini Haran (kidnaping) pastime
3. Jam Sawali Hanuman Temple
4. ISKCON Nagpur
5. ISKCON Amravati





**Saint Agastya's Ancient Heritage at Ramtek**



**Saint Agastya's Ancient Heritage at Ramtek**





**Saint Agastya's Ancient Heritage**



**Saint Agastya**



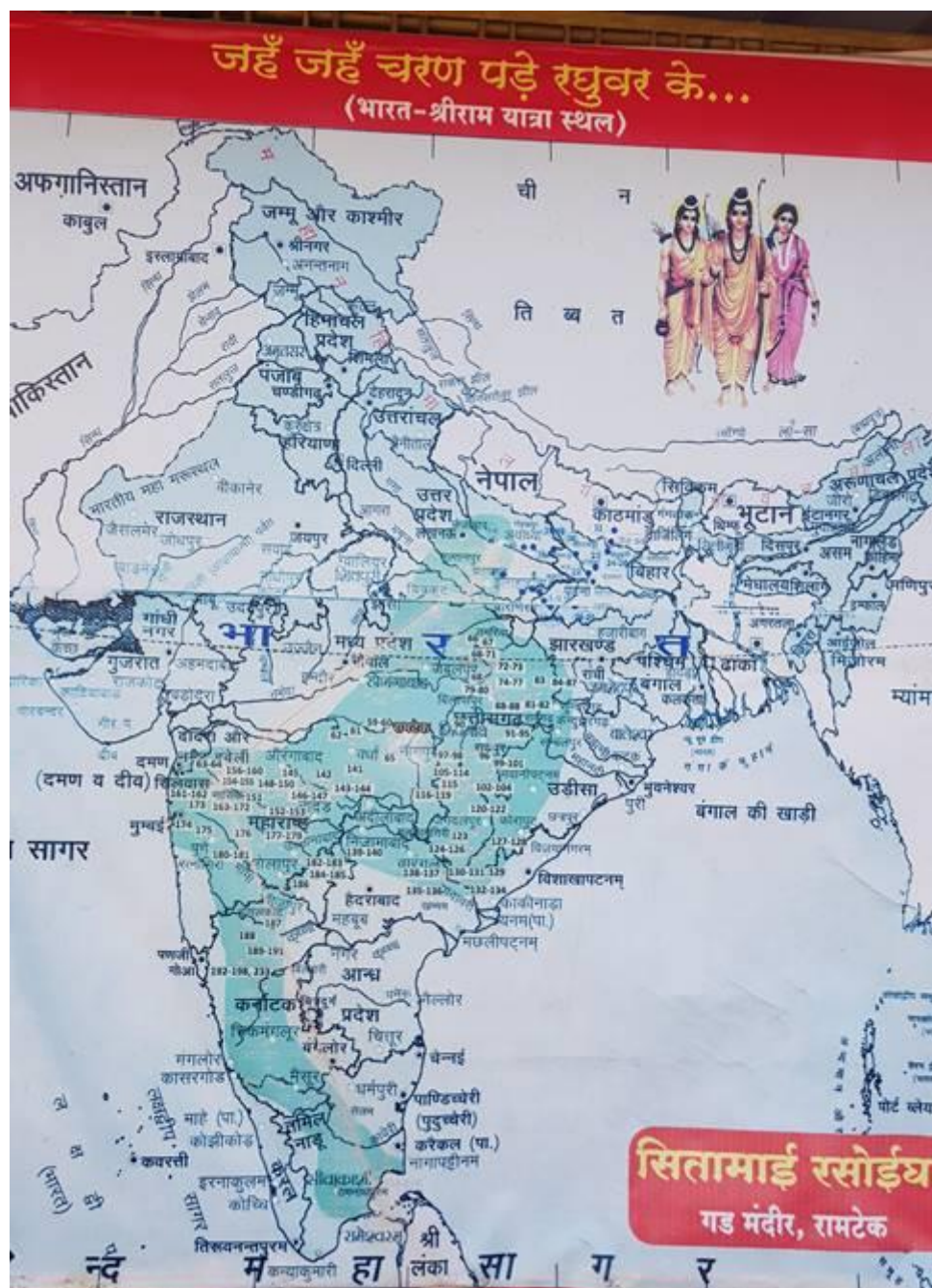


**Saint Agastya's Ancient Heritage**



**Sri Sri Radha Krishna at Saint Agastya's Ashram**





**Map where Lord Ramacandra's lotus feet fell**

### **The Deities in the Main Temple at Ramtek:**

The local history of the deities is noteworthy. In 1736 King Raghu Bhonsle visited Rama Giri only to discover that just the *padukas* or wooden sandals of Lord Rama were being worshiped. The deities were no longer present. The king vowed to commission Jaipur deities for the temple. But once the sacred *murtis* were prepared for temple installation *prana-pratistha* the king had a dream in which Lord Rama told him to search under the waters of the River Sur a few miles north. Finally, in 1753, the original deities were discovered and re-installed atop Rama Giri amidst much festivity and celebration. The Jaipur deities are privately cared for in a reserved area. This temple is located on the Ramgiri Hill in Ramtek, which is 52 km northeast of Nagpur city. One can travel by car up to the entrance of the temple on the hill.





**Ramtek**



**Sri Sri Sita Rama at Ramtek**

**King Raghu Bhonsle re-installed original deities in 1753**





**Sri Sri Sita Rama at Ramtek**



**Beautiful Ramagiri - view from atop of Ramtek Hills**





**Ramtek**



**Ramtek**

### **Rare deity of Lord Visnu-Varaha:**

Near Ramtek, there is huge rare deity of Lord Visnu-Varaha. Overlooking the valley and the fort, this is one of rarest giant Varaha deities weighing several tons.





**Rare deity of Lord Visnu-Varaha at Ramtek**

**Ambala Kunda:** This lake below the hill is said to have been named for King Amba, who was cured of a terrible disease after his bath in these waters, which originate from an underground river called Patala Ganga. In the 18th century King Raghu Bhonsle had the lake and many of the shore temples renovated with fine stone work. These temples include those of Lord Jagannatha, Pancamukhi Mahadeva ("five-faced Siva"), and Surya Narayana (the Sun incarnation of Visnu).



**Ambala Kunda lake**

**Hanuman Temple at Jam Sawali:** Close to Nagpur, across the border at Jam Sawali in Madhya Pradesh is a rare temple of Hanuman. Here Hanuman Ji lying down underneath a



large Pipal tree. This is the only temple in the world where Hanuman Ji is lying. Hanuman Ji is the eternal serviator of Lord Ramacandra.



**Hanuman Temple at Jam Sawali**

**ISKCON Nagpur:**

International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) has centre in Nagpur. Their Lordships Sri Sri Radha Gopinath are the presiding deities.

*Address: Gate No.4 Near Gandhi Sagar Lake, Empress City, Nagpur, Maharashtra.*





**ISKCON Nagpur**



**ISKCON Nagpur**





**Their Lordships Sri Sri Radha Gopinath at ISKCON Nagpur**



**Sri Sri Radha Gopinath**



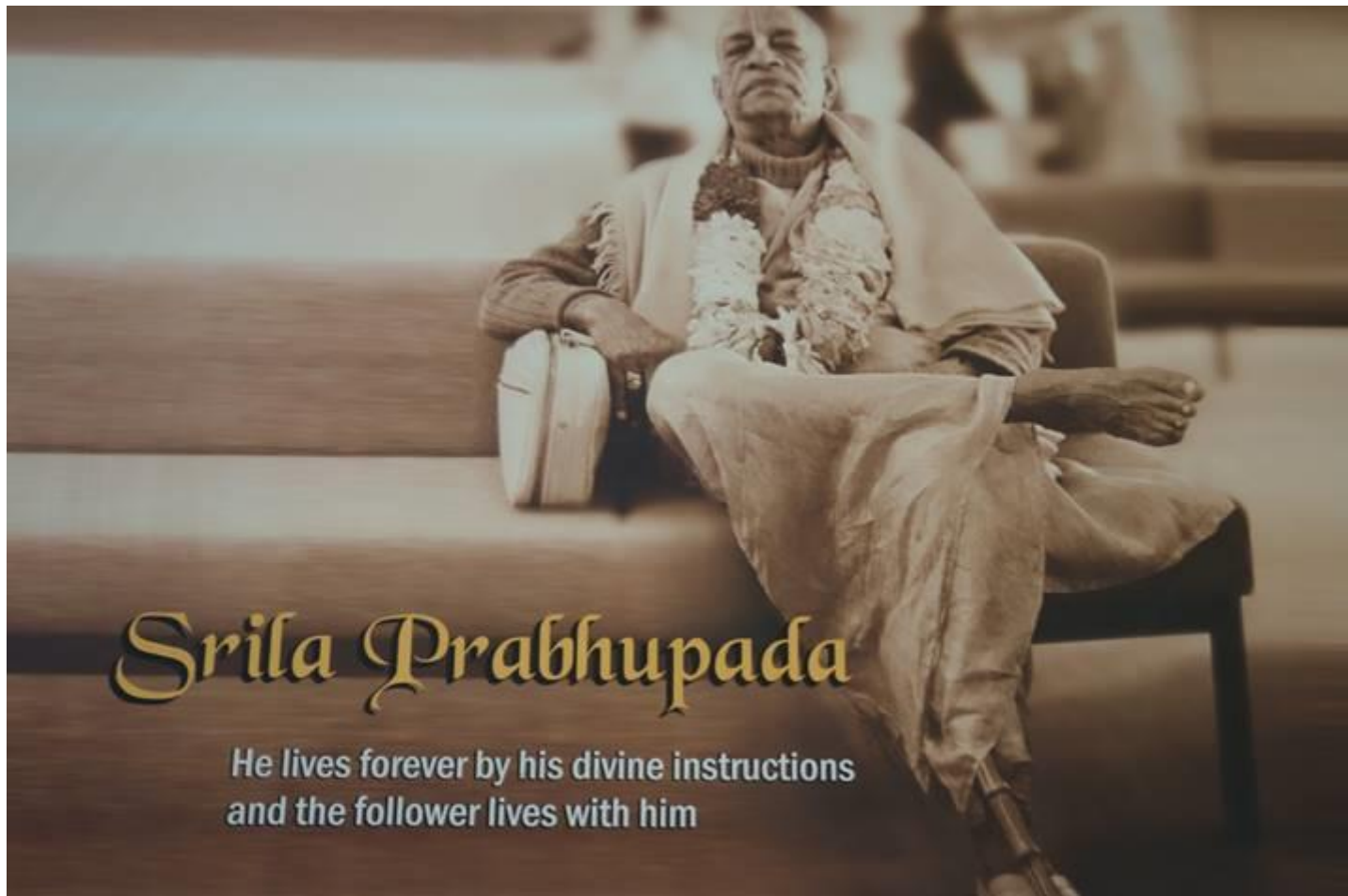


**Sri Sri Radha Gopinath**



**His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada**  
**Founder-acarya of International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON)**





# Srila Prabhupada

He lives forever by his divine instructions  
and the follower lives with him

**Srila Prabhupada**



**Lord Krishna - The Supreme Personality of Godhead**





**Gift stall at ISKCON Nagpur**



**Lord Krishna**



**Hare Krishna Hare Krishna  
Krishna Krishna Hare Hare**

**Hare Rama Hare Rama  
Rama Rama Hare Hare**

**Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare |  
Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare ||**



**Lord Krishna**



हरे कृष्ण हरे कृष्ण कृष्ण कृष्ण हरे हरे ।

हरे राम हरे राम राम राम हरे हरे ॥



इस्कॉन नागपूर

द्वारा आयोजित

श्री जगन्नाथ रथ यात्रा



शनिवार दिनांक 9 फरवरी 2019 दोपहर 12 बजे से

कथा प्रवक्ता

प.पु.श्रील लोकनाथ स्वामी महाराज

श्री श्री राधा गोपीनाथ मंदिर

अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय कृष्णभावनामृत संघ (इस्कॉन)

संस्थापकपार्षद : कृष्णकृपाभीषुर्लि बी बीयर् ए.सी. भवितव्येताम्त स्वामी श्रील प्रभुपाद  
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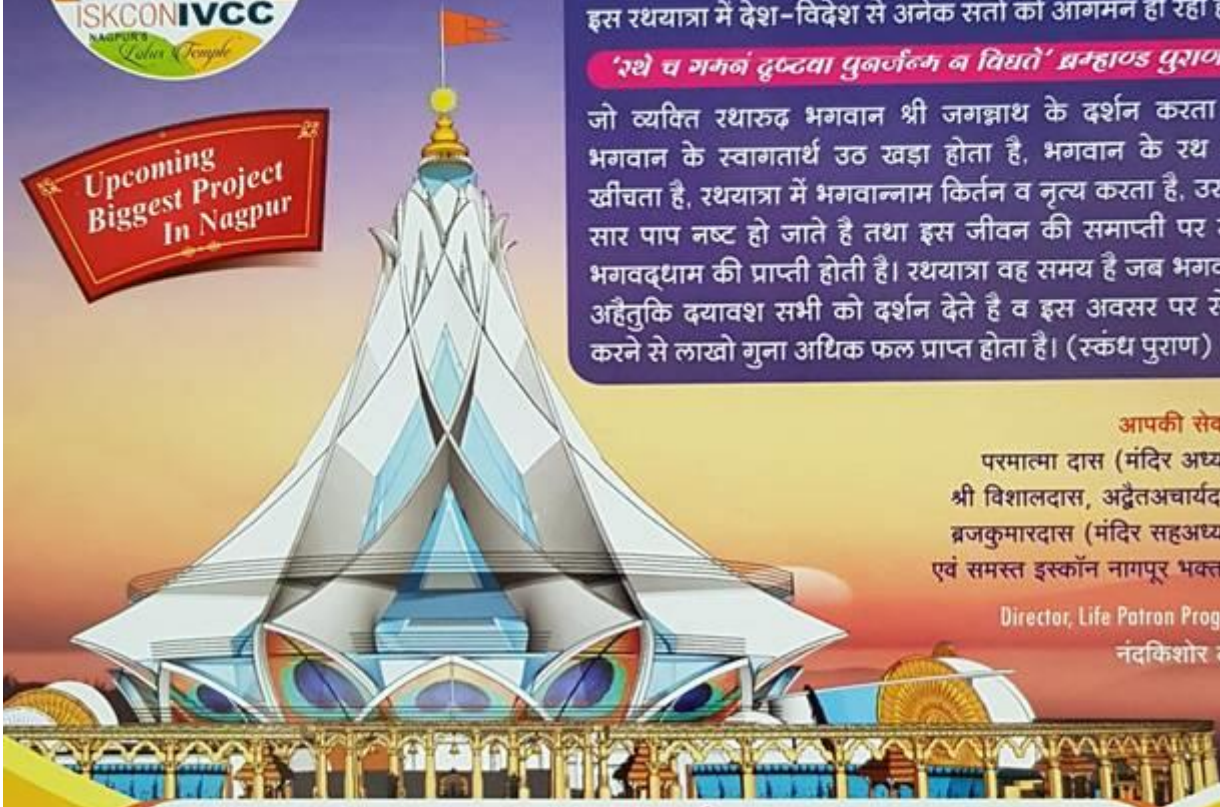


**Lord Jagannatha Rathayatra Festival organized by ISKCON Nagpur**





**Upcoming  
Biggest Project  
In Nagpur**



प्रिय बन्धुवर, हरे कृष्ण।

कृपया हमारा अभिवादन तथा भगवान जगन्नाथजी का शुभ आशिर्वाद स्वीकार करें। भगवान जगन्नाथ कि असीम कृपा व आप सब के सहयोग से नागपूर में प्रतिवर्ष कि भांति इस वर्ष १ फरवरी २०१९ को श्री 'जगन्नाथ रथयात्रा' का आयोजन किया जा रहा है। इस रथयात्रा में देश-विदेश से अनेक संतो को आगमन हो रहा है।

**'रथे च गमनं दृष्ट्वा पुनर्जन्म न विद्यते' ब्रम्हाण्ड पुराण**

जो व्यक्ति रथारुढ़ भगवान श्री जगन्नाथ के दर्शन करता है, भगवान के स्वागतार्थ उठ खड़ा होता है, भगवान के रथ को खींचता है, रथयात्रा में भगवान्नाम किर्तन व नृत्य करता है, उसके सार पाप नष्ट हो जाते हैं तथा इस जीवन की समाप्ति पर उसे भगवद्धाम की प्राप्ति होती है। रथयात्रा वह समय है जब भगवान अहैतुकि दयावश सभी को दर्शन देते हैं व इस अवसर पर सेवा करने से लाखों गुना अधिक फल प्राप्त होता है। (स्कंध पुराण)

आपकी सेवा में

परमात्मा दास (मंदिर अध्यक्ष)  
श्री विशालदास, अद्वैतअचार्यदास,  
ब्रजकुमारदास (मंदिर सहअध्यक्ष)  
एवं समस्त इस्कॉन नागपूर भक्तगण

Director, Life Patron Program  
नंदकिशोर दास

**\* रथयात्रा मार्ग \***

\* श्री पोद्दारेश्वर राम मंदिर (मेयो हॉस्पिटल चौक) से प्रारंभ \* अग्रेसरन चौक  
\* नंगा पुतला \* सराफा मार्केट चौक, इतवारी \* गांधी पुतला \* बडकस चौक \* चिटणीस पार्क  
\* तिलक पुतला चौक \* थाडेश्वरी राम मंदिर \* इस्कॉन मंदिर, एम्प्रेस सिटी, गेट नं २ मे समापन.

**\* कार्यक्रम \***

दोप. १२:०० बजे : रथयात्रा प्रारंभ

शाम ०६:०० बजे : श्री इस्कॉन मंदिर, एम्प्रेस सिटी पार्क मे समापन.

विदेशी भक्तों द्वारा संकिर्तन एवं सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम

प.पु. श्रील लोकनाथ स्वामी महाराजजी द्वारा

जगन्नाथ कथा पद, भोग, महाआरती व श्री जगन्नाथ महाप्रसाद

**\* विशेष उपस्थिति \***

प.पु. श्रील लोकनाथ स्वामी महाराज  
विश्व पदयात्रा संचालक  
व किर्तन सम्राट

मा.सौ.नंदाताई जिचकार  
महापौर नागपुर शहर

श्री रवि मेहाडिया और मेहाडिया परिवार की ओर से  
भगवान श्री जगन्नाथ रथयात्रा की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएँ।

**\* संपर्क \***

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9970328276, 9370164102

**New Temple construction at ISKCON Nagpur**

### ISKCON Amravati:

ISKCON has Temple at Amravati. Their Lordships Sri Sri Rukmini Dwarkadhish are the priding deities at the Temple.

Address: Sri Sri Rukmini Dwarkadhish Adhyatmik Sanskar Kendra, Sarswati Colony, Rathi Nagar, VMV Road, Amravati, Maharashtra – 444603

Website: <http://www.iskconamravati.com/>





**Sri Sri Rukmini Dwarkadhish at ISKCON Amravati Temple**



**Sri Sri Rukmini Dwarkadhish**





**Sri Sri Rukmini Dwarkadhish**

**Nagpur is the Orange 🍊 capital of India. Around Nagpur there are many Orange orchards. Cotton crop is also grown in abundance.**



**Orange 🍊 orchards around Nagpur**





**Nagpur oranges** 🍊

**Kaundinyapur ~ Birthplace of Rukmini:**  
<https://archive.org/details/KaundinyapurYatra/>

**Mayapur TV:** <http://Mayapur.tv> / **Vrindavana TV:** <http://Vrindavana.tv>

**Holy Pilgrimages:** [www.Holy-Pilgrimages.com](http://www.Holy-Pilgrimages.com) / **Facebook:**  
[www.facebook.com/HolyPilgrimages](https://www.facebook.com/HolyPilgrimages)  
**Holy Dham:** [www.HolyDham.com](http://www.HolyDham.com)

**Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare |**  
**Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare ||**